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# Message Text

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53
ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00

INSE-00 SSO-00 /016 W
---------- 029286
O 281225Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3945

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FOR D/HA/ORM - LOWMAN

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF VS
SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEE VO THANG

REF: A BANGKOK 25292 B BANGKOK 25455 C BANGKOK 26428
D STATE 237699 E STATE 240077

1. REFTEL E REQUESTS POST ADVICE ON POSSIBLE RECONSIDERATION
OF SUBJECT REFUGEE.

2. VO THANG CAME IN 27 SEPT ASKING ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF
A REVIEW OF HIS CASE. HE STATED THAT HE APPLIED FOR THE
FRENCH PROGRAM ONLY WHEN TOLD BY A UNHCR REP (ERRONEOUSLY)
THAT HE HAD ABSOLUTELY NO CHANCE TO GO TO THE US. HE RECEIVED
FRENCH TRAVEL DOCUMENTS SAME DAY AND WAS OUT-PROCESSED THROUGH
THAI IMMIGRATION 28 SEPT. DEPARTURE IS SCHEDULED FOR 29
SEPT RPT 29 SEPT.

3. POST RECOMMENDS RECONSIDERATION OF HIS CASE BECAUSE OF
HIS MANY TIES TO THE US THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

4. ORM SHOULD, HOWEVER, BE AWARE OF POTENTIAL LOCAL
PROBLEMS THAT MAY COME UP IF HIS FRENCH VISA IS CANCELLED.
UNHCR ADVISES THAT THE FRENCH REFUGEE TEAM CHIEF WAS "VERY
DISTURBED" WHEN A ONE WEEK DELAY WAS REQUESTED IN VO
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THANG'S TRAVEL. HE STATED THAT THONG MUST LEAVE ON 29

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SEPT, OR HIS VISA WILL BE RECOUPED. UNHCR ALSO POINTED OUT THAT, AS THE FRENCH ARE, AT PRESENT, THE ONLY THIRD COUNTRY TAKING AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN BOAT CASES, IT COULD "HARM THE PROGRAM" IF THE FRENCH TIGHTEN UP THEIR RATHER FLEXIBLE CRITERIA. IN ADDITION, SINCE THONG'S PAPERWORK HAS ALREADY BEEN PROCESSED THROUGH RTG IMMIGRATION, IT MAY REFOCUS THAI ATTENTION, AGAIN, ON THE DELICATE SITUATION OF BOATS IN GENERAL.

5. ALTHOUGH WE DO HIGHLY RECOMMEND US PAROLE FOR THONG, CONSIDERING LOCAL POLITICS, IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF HE DOES DEPART TO FRANCE TOMORROW AND HAVE HIS CASE RECONSIDERED IN PARIS.
BURKE

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NNN

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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
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**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 28 SEP 1976
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
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**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** VIETNAMESE REFUGEE VO THANG
**TAGS:** SREF, VS, (VO THANG)
**To:** STATE
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